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Part II

CHAPTER 9

The Bradys Find the Clew in the Convict Camp

Just before the break occurred Pete Smith and Dan Duff had fallen asleep in the hut and Harry felt he would go out and risk trying to exchange a few words with OKB. He was nearly seen by a guard and hid himself between two huts and was indeed still crouching there when the outbreak began. When the shouting convicts started to rush by where he was, YKB joined in the shouting and rushed on with the crowd.

The guards inside the grounds had all been killed except one and of the 6 guards in the watch towers, 3 had been killed and 3 wisely fled. Harry was in the crowd in the attack on the superintendent's house. Indeed he was right in the forefront having been pushed up there by the surging crowd. He was right behind Joe Jinger. The plan of the negroes was to seize Col. Tolliver alive, tie him to a tree, pour oil on him and set him on fire. When the frenzied mob stormed the building the guards inside fought bravely and Col. Tolliver was no coward and fought desperately as the rest. Guns blazed from the windows and convicts both white and black dropped like flies but superior numbers plus a mad frenzy gained the day and soon the door fell and the convicts swarmed into the building.

Then ensued some horrible scenes. In the midst of it Joe Jinger threw himself at Col. Tolliver's throat only to receive a thrust from the Col's

knife just over the heart. Next instance the Col. went down under an avalanche of screaming, maddened men.

Joe Jinger wounded unto death reeled out of the door right into Harry's arms. Joe Jinger said, "Boy, I'm going to 'le. Get me back to my hut. I have a secret there that will make you rich if you ever can get out of this place." Harry half carried the old negro into the colored part of the camp. YKB was afraid the old man would die before he could impart his secret but he was not to die until he had told the following story.

Joe said he was one of the Clayton servants who had remained at the old place after most of the other negroes had fled at the close of the Civil War. But after a few years his master, Col. Lionel Clayton had gotten cross with him and often treated him unjustly. Joe would have overlooked this but he (Joe) had gotten into a fight with another negro and killed him. He knew that if his master had struck up for him he would have gotten off on a plea of "self defense". But Col. Clayton had not tried to help him but let Joe be sentenced to life imprisonment in the convict camp.

Joe swore revenge and one day about 10 years later he was in a gang contracted out and working near the estate of Mossbank. He dug his way under the fence one night and made his way to Mossbank intending to kill Col. Clayton out of revenge. Presence of others prevented this but on leaving he had stolen a legal looking paper hoping it would cause Mr. Clayton trouble.

Being unable to read it wasn't un-

till much later that he knew how valuable was the paper he had secured and how great was his revenge on Col. Clayton. It was not until after Col. Clayton's ruin and after Mr. Biggerman had built the big mansion on site of Mossbank that a lawyer convicted of a crime was thrust into the camp and on being shown the paper by Joe Jinger had told Joe that that paper would make the fortune of any person who could get out with it as Mr. Biggerman would pay any amount to get his hands on this paper which proved his claims to the estate of Mossbank were false. Harry asked Joe why he ever went back to camp after he had escaped. Joe told him he had felt that permanent escape was impossible as they would put bloodhounds on his trail and the penalty for attempted escape was so severe that he did not try it. Joe Jinger had always been able to conceal the paper and even now it rested under a flat stone under the earthen floor of the hut.

Just at this point a shadow appeared in the doorway and a man sprang into the shack. The excitement was too much for Joe Jinger and he gasped and died then and there.

The man who had sprung into the hut was OKB. Harry could see him plainly as everything was lighted up by the burning administration building. The convicts who had now all disappeared had fired the building which was blazing like an inferno and for all the Bradys knew, Col. Tolliver might be tied up inside.

By the light from the fire the Bradys began scraping around in the dirt floor and soon located a flat stone. Under this just as Joe Jinger had said they found a dirty envelope and inside it a paper. OKB went to the door where he could get better light from the fire and hastily scanned its contents. Then he exclaimed; "This is it, Harry. We are coming to the wind-up. We have found the clew to the Clayton case in the convict camp."

CHAPTER 10

Under the Eagle's Nest

OKB said he had been with the mob when the house was set on fire and he would have saved Col. Tolliver if there had been the slightest chance but he could do nothing and had seen the house furiously burning knowing that Tolliver was tied up there and

helpless with results that you can well imagine.

The Bradys now try to effect their escape and knowing most of the convicts had made for the main gate they go in the opposite direction. They pick up Pat Downey, OKB's Irish friend but run into no other convicts. They come to the barbed wire fence and burrow under it with their hands until they could all wriggle through.

They made their way straight up the mountain and soon found themselves on a narrow path which wound around a giant ledge. They followed this path with a steep cliff on one side and a drop of about a thousand feet to the bottom of a ravine on the other side. At length they came to a wall of rock which ran from the wall across the trail clear to the brink of the ravine effectually blocking their way.

Pat Downey had work for Mr. Bartel Biggerman and this path they had followed was familiar to him for that reason. Pat turned to OKB and told him the wall of rock must be artificial as it had not existed when he was working for Biggerman, he further said it must serve as a gate as Eagle's Nest must be on the cliff over their heads out of sight. Just then a super-loud voice was heard echoing through the ravine, shouting: "Joe Jinger, come Joe Jinger. We want you."

CHAPTER 11

The Bradys Capture Joe Jinger

The superstitious Pat Downey was almost scared to death but the Bradys explained to him it was only a voice calling through a megaphone.

OKB pushed on the wall of a rock and indeed it proved to be a gate and easily swung aside. They passed thru and came to a deep indentation in the cliff and they could now see above from the castle-like Eagle's Nest. An iron door set in the cliff met their view, this, like the gate was unfastened and passing thru they walked along a vault-like passage until they came to a flight of iron stairs which they ascended. Another door let them out into the grounds of Eagle's Nest.

Seated some distance from them in a wheeled chair was a figure with long white hair and wrinkled features. OKB went forward and said; "Have I the honor of addressing Dr. Clay-

ton?" The figure did not move and OKB leaned over and touched the figure only to turn to, and Harry and Pat and smile. It was only a wall figure, a dummy, most cleverly done, evidently for the purpose of being exposed at such times as the present occupants of Eagle's Nest had reason to wish to assure some one of the continued existence of Dr. Clayton and seemed to presume that the real Dr. Clayton had been dead for some time which turned out to be the real facts of the case.

Behind the dummy figure of Dr. Clayton was a door into the house. OKB opened this door and the three men barely had time to conceal themselves before down a corridor appeared Mr. Clark Coles, Supt. of the estate accompanied by Joe Jinger Jr. Coles crossed the yard and disappeared thru the doorway which led to the stair way down the ravine. No sooner was he out of sight than the Bradys pounced on Joe Jinger Jr. and made him a prisoner.

CHAPTER 12

CONCLUSION

Coles reappeared from the top of the ravine stairs this time with a gun drawn in his hand but YKB wrenched the gun away before he could fire and soon his hands were tied behind him.

Brady told him that his real identity was known, that he was in reality Dutch Dave, the counterfeiter and that he was working some scheme with Bartel Biggerman. OKB further told him that Biggerman was their chief game and that Dutch Dave could get his freedom if he would aid them to get the goods completely on Biggerman. Dave accepted this offer with a little too great a show of willingness which put Bradys on their guard. Dave led the 3 men to a room in which they found sufficient clothing and were soon happy to be relieved of their hated striped convict clothes. Next they were led to what had been Dr. Clayton's laboratory and were shown a half completed plate of bonds of the Southern RR Co. which Dave had been engraving to allow Mr. Bartel Biggerman to make a killing in the stock market. Dave told them that even now Biggerman was in New York to lay his plans.

OKB stepped to the work bench and picked up the half completed

plate. As he did this Dutch Dave backed himself against the wall and seemed to be feeling long this with the fingers of his bound hands. Harry saw this and gave a shout of warning. OKB, Harry and Pat jumped thru the doorway at which they had entered just in time as Dutch Dave's fingers at last pressed a hidden spring set in the wall and the whole floor in front of the work bench swung down on a hinge. Dutch Dave seeing his trap had failed to catch his enemies tried to escape thru a doorway at his side of the room but too great haste in his awkward bound condition was his undoing. He tripped and rolled over and with a terrified scream he plunged down the opening created by the falling of the trap door. He had indeed been caught in his own trap. Questioned Joe Jinger Jr. told the Bradys that that trap opened into a natural seam in the cliff and that it was 300 feet to the bottom. No attempt was ever made to recover Dutch Dave's body.

OKB offered Joe Jinger \$100 and all expenses to go to New York and appear as witness against Mr. Biggerman. Needless to say Joe accepted.

They reached the nearby town of Charleston a little before noon. The place was in a fever of excitement over the affair at the convict camp.

New York was reached early the next morning and at 10:00 A. M. precisely the Bradys accompanied by a policeman entered the office of Mr. Bartel Biggerman. He was at once placed under arrest and handcuffed. Biggerman did not even try to make a bluff at innocence when OKB showed him the clew found in the convict camp. "In heaven's name where did you get that?" gasped the broker. And OKB said, "Joe Jinger."

The Bradys went from this office told the happy news to Col. Clayton, who had continued to improve in health and the far from well at least no longer paralyzed and could converse freely. When shown the paper OKB had recovered from Joe Jinger, Col. Clayton said that the paper would restore his fortune and indeed it did. Col. Clayton and Miss Kathleen are again living at Mossbank and his fortune of nearly a million dollars is his once more. OKB in his long career has made some most ungrateful clients but Col. Clayton did not prove to be that kind and in fact

offered OKB half his fortune. But OKB does not accept such gifts but did send in quite a large bill which was promptly paid, bringing the Bradys one of their largest fees, \$10,000.

Bartel Biggerman went to Sing Sing for 15 years for counterfeiting. Col. Clayton never pressed against him the charge of swindling.

Joe Jinger Jr. was paid his hundred dollars and sent home again.

Pat Downy is now running a florist's business over in Jersey, into which he was helped by the old detective. Nothing would induce him to travel South again, for Pat has not forgotten the old life in the convict pen and his adventure with the BRADYS and JOE JINGER.

NEWSY NEWS

By Ralph F. Cummings

Has anyone ever seen the Dime Novels that were put out by Henry J. Wehman of New York? I never saw them before. They are 48 pages more or less, sold for 10c, size 4 1/4 by 7 1/4 inches. Well illustrated and they seem to be on the old Scouts, Pioneers, Indians, etc., of the early days. Here are 3 of them. Wigwam and Cabin, or the Perils of the early Pioneers, Scalping Knife, or the Log Cabin in the Flames, Scouts of the old West, or the Rifle and the Tomahawk. No authors names given. Wehman used to sell songs of all kinds, these novels came out in the 80's or 90's, no dates on them.

Say fellows, can you help me out on the titles and authors of Log Cabin Nos. 157-158-161-162; Wide Awake Library #1354, Army and Navy Library #31 to 35-37 to end. Nngget Library #166 to 168. New York Five Cent Library #119 to end; also title of Adventure Weekly # 6 to end. Jesse James Stories # 124 to end. Young Sleuth Library. 144 to end, and authors name only in Wide Awake Library # 1 to 397.

We hear that Sam Tanenbaum is out of the army, and I'll bet he isn't sorry either.

H. O. Rawson remembers the old days when he and other school boys would have a pocket full of novels, that they swapped around at recess time, such as Frank Reade, Boys of New York, Young Men of America,

Fireside Companion and Street & Smith's 5c Weeklies. He says he used to have to look at the displays of the old timers in the store windows. Pard Rawson says one of the Police Captain Howard stories was a dandy called "Shadow, the Mysterious Detective". (Picture shows a cellar of a thieves den at night. Man in mask throwing the light of a dark lantern around until it focused onto a human hand sticking up from the floor amid the loot) A creepy thriller, Whoopee! Mr. Rawson has been sick nearly all winter, and part of this summer, and doesn't feel any too good yet. Cheer up, pal.

Miss Ida Schwartz of 1813 No. 16th St., Phila., Pa., died July 15th, 1945, at St. Lukes hospital after a fall about 3 months ago with a broken hip. She was 84 years old June 28th. She wrote stories under the name of Ida M. Black at the same time Uncle Billie Benners was writing them, her late brother, Fred was once the publisher of Ladies Home Journal. We, the Bro., send our sympathy to Miss Edna Schwartz, sister to Miss Ida.

Patrick Mulhall says, that the title of Ornum and Co., Ten Cent Irish Novels, the Mysterious Murder, or Crohoore of the Billhook, story of old Ireland, by Banim (1872) that he read this same tale published originally in 1825, the author, Michael Banim, was a Kilkenny man, and it may be of interest to the Bro. to learn that the scene of this tale was laid in a place not more than 5 miles from my place (Kilkenny) and that I am quite familiar with the place mentioned in the story.

J. P. Guinon says the article "Frank Merriwell's Father," on page 1 of the March issue, No. 150, was one of the best he had ever read in Roundup. Congratulations!

The article of this fine article, David C. Adams, is very sick, the outcome of being held up, and robbed 3 or 4 months ago, one night. Dave tried to fight them off, 3 men, and got a crushing blow on the head, of which he has had nose bleeds and head aches ever since. It's getting so you aren't safe on the street even in the day time, let alone at night, if you have 5c in your pockets.

One also broke into Clyde Wakefield's garage, and stole a few small articles from his car the other night, and set fire to the back of his car,

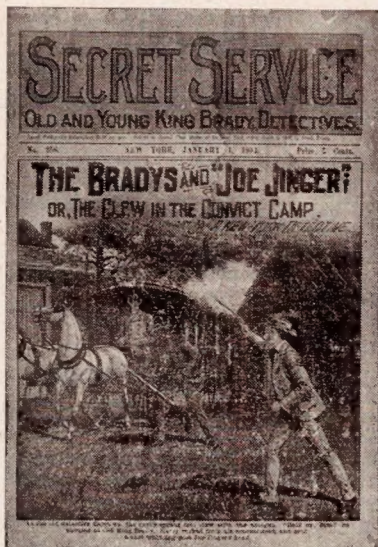
inside it was so bad the fire department was there at 1:30 in the morning. It is presumed that kids broke in and started smoking and started the fire then beat it out of there.

George French writes—Did I tell you about Lenhart? Anyhow, it will bear repeating, as it is a rare coincidence. I had seen the name, Chas. Lenhart, Haverstraw, N. Y. either in the list of members or somewhere, off and on, and then on looking over the Golden Days of the 80's, saw the name stamped on a lot of them. Recently, I was reading my early diary of 1904. I have kept a diary since 1902 and to my great surprise, read about my swapping novels with a Chas. Lenhart of Haverstraw, N. Y.! I wrote at once to see if he was still living, and got his reply, saying he is very much alive, etc. I got a big kick out of that for a fact.

Ye editor Cummings needs the following novels to complete his sets: American Indian Weekly # 1, Nick Carter Stories # 83, Dick Dobbs # 1, 9, Beadles New and Old Friends, small size #2-3, Boys Best #1,5, Beadles Half Dime Singers Library #3-20-43, Brave and Bold # 26, 29, 31, 32, 34, 92, 189, 190, 200, 204, 252, 386, Wide Awake Library (Frank Reade Stories) # 607, 631, 993, 1070, 1083, 1136, 1137, Paul Jones Weekly # 1-19-20.

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